

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 221257Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3776

S E C R E T CAIRO 7049

EXDIS

FOR SSM DIRECTOR KONTOS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWEL EG

SUBJ: POSSIBLE EPIDEMIC (C)

REF: (A) CAIRO 7028, (B) STATE 114252, (C) CAIRO 6418

1. REF A IS OUR MOST RECENT UPDATE OF POSSIBLE PLAGUE OUTBREAK. AS YOU WILL NOTE THEREIN, SINCE LIMITED INFORMATION WE HAVE THUS FAR BEEN ABLE OBTAIN PLACES CASES LARGELY IN THIRD ARMY AREA, CAPT MINER HAS SUGGESTED SFM PERSONNEL BE IMMUNIZED ASAP IN VIEW THEIR PROXIMITY TO THIRD ARMY AREA.

2. I DISCUSSED SUBJECT WITH THORNE YESTERDAY AND SHOWED HIM ENTIRE FILE OF PERTINENT EXCHANGES BETWEEN CAIRO AND DEPT, INCLUDING REF A. IN VIEW SENSITIVITY SUBJECT, I STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF TRYING TO GIVE SUCH IMMUNIZATIONS WITHOUT WORD OF IT GETTING AROUND AND ASKED FOR ANY IDEAS HE MIGHT HAVE. THORNE NOTED SFM PERSONNEL HAVE JUST HAD A ROUND OF IMMUNIZATIONS FOR RABIES AND GAMMA SHOTS DUE TO INCIDENCE OF HEPATITIS AR RAFIDIM AND ONE CASE AT SFM. ALL SFM PERSONNEL HAVE TAKEN SHOTS RECOMMENDED. THORNE SAYS HE WILL INFORM PERSONNEL OF PLAGUE SHOTS, REQUIRED. TRAVEL TO EGYPT AND ISRAEL ARE AT MINIMUM NOW AS PRESSURE TO MEET CONSTRUCTION DEADLINE CONTINUES. SFM PERSONNEL WERE INSTRUCTED BEFORE RABIES SHOTS NOT TO DISCUSS

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FACT THEY WERE REQUIRED. WHILE WE BOTH RECOGNIZE

POSSIBILITY SOME LEAKAGE CANNOT BE ENTIRELY EXCLUDED,
THORNE WILL INSTRUCT SFM STAFF TO SAY NOTHING ABOUT PLAGUE
IMMUNIZATION WHEN GIVEN.

3. AT MY REQUEST THORNE ALSO MET WITH MINER TODAY.

4. THORNE HAS SEEN THIS TELEGRAM. IN VIEW SENSITIVITY OF
SUBJECT, WE HAVE AGREED THAT WE WILL NOT REPEAT TO SFM
MESSAGES RE POSSIBLE PLAGUE OUTBREAK. INSTEAD, I WILL
IF NECESSARY SEND GENERAL MESSAGE ASKING THORNE VISIT
CAIRO. HE WILL KNOW WHAT I MEAN.
EILTS

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NNN

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